

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-20 are now present in this application. Claims 2, 11, and 20 are independent. By this amendment, claim 1 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 9-20 have been added, and claims 2 and 6 have been amended.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicant assumes that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has set forth certain instances wherein the claim language lacks antecedent basis.

In order to overcome this rejection, Applicant has amended claim 6 to depend from objected-to but allowable dependent claim 2 to provide proper antecedent basis for the deficiency specifically pointed out by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which Applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000020962A to Nakagawa. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 has been canceled, thus rendering a portion of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claims 6-8, while not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form, thereby automatically placing independent claim 2 into condition for allowance, and dependent claim 6 has been amended to depend from independent claim 2, thereby automatically placing dependent claims 6-8 into condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 2-5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application. As noted above, objected-to claim 2 has been rewritten into independent form, and should therefore be allowed. Also, claims 3-8 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 2, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from claim 2, which is believed to be allowable.

Claims 9-20

Claims 9-20 have been added for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 9 and 10 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 2, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from claim 2, which is believed to be allowable.

In addition, claims 9 and 10 recite further limitations, which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references.

Independent claim 11 recites a combination of elements in an optical recording/reproducing apparatus including “an optical pickup for recognizing information of an optical disc,” “a main shaft installed on a base plate, for supporting the optical pickup,” “a sub-shaft positioned spaced from the main shaft and installed on the base plate, for supporting the optical pickup”, “a prop portion installed on the base plate, for supporting a bottom middle surface of the main shaft, the height of the prop portion being restrictively formed so that the prop portion does not come in contact with an arm of the optical pickup when the optical pickup slides over the prop portion”, and “an optical pickup skew adjustment unit operating within a range that the optical pickup can recognize the optical disc and installed at at least one of the main shaft and the sub-shaft, for correcting a skew of the optical pickup.” Applicant respectfully submits that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 11 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Claims 12-19 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 11, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from claim 11, which is believed to be allowable.

In addition, claims 12-19 recite further limitations that are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references.

Independent claim 20 recites a combination of elements in an optical recording/reproducing apparatus including “an optical pickup for recognizing information of an optical disc”, “a main shaft installed on a base plate, for supporting the optical pickup”, “a sub-shaft positioned spaced from the main shaft and installed on the base plate, for supporting the optical pickup”, “a prop portion installed on the base plate, for supporting a bottom middle surface of the main shaft”, and “an optical pickup skew adjustment unit operating within a range that the optical pickup can recognize the optical disc and installed at at least one of the main shaft and the sub-shaft, for correcting a skew of the optical pickup by pivoting the main shaft against the prop portion.”

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Applicant respectfully submits that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 11 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Consideration and allowance of claims 9-19 are respectfully requested.

Additional Cited References

Since the remaining references cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but have merely been cited to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

Office Action

Office Action contains numerous characterizations of the invention, the claims, and the related art, with which Applicant does not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicant declines to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Chad D. Wells, Registration No. 50,875, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By Esther Chong
Esther H. Chong
Registration No.: 40,953
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant

CDW